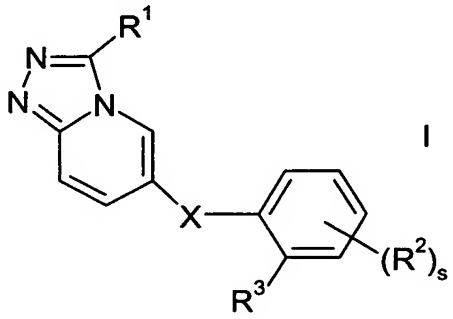
ABSTRACT

NOVEL TRIAZOLO-PYRIDINES ANTI-INFLAMMATORY COMPOUNDS

The present invention relates to novel triazolo-pyridines of the formula



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wherein X is $>CH_2$, >NH, sulfur, >S=O, $>SO_2$ or oxygen; wherein said $>CH_2$ and >NH may optionally be substituted with a suitable substituent;

R^1 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, $(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl and other suitable substituents;

R^2 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, $(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl and other suitable substituents;

s is an integer from 0-4;

R^3 is R^4, $R^5\text{-}(NR^6)\text{-}$, $R^5\text{-S-}$, $R^5\text{-}(S=O)\text{-}$, $R^5\text{-}(SO_2)\text{-}$, $R^5\text{-}SO_2\text{-}NR^6\text{-}$, $R^5\text{-}(NR^6)\text{-}SO_2\text{-}$, $R^5\text{-O-}$, $R^5\text{-}(C=O)\text{-}$, $R^5\text{-}(NR^6)\text{-}(C=O)\text{-}$, $R^5\text{-}(C=O)\text{-}NR^6\text{-}$, $R^5\text{-O-}(C=O)\text{-}$, $R^5\text{-}(C=O)\text{-O-}$, $R^5\text{-}CR^7\text{=}CR^8\text{-}$ or $R^5\text{-C}\equiv\text{C-}$; such that the molecular weight of R^3 is less than 500 AMU, preferably less than 250 AMU;

R^4, R^5 and R^6 are each selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, $(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl and other suitable substituents;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

to intermediates for their preparation, to pharmaceutical compositions containing them and to their medicinal use. The compounds of the present invention are potent inhibitors of MAP kinases. They are useful in the treatment of inflammation, osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, cancer, reperfusion or ischemia in stroke or heart attack, autoimmune diseases and other disorders.